



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 8 April 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that a Massachusetts man was charged Friday with threatening to disable an electrical substation in Parkersburg, West Virginia. (See item [5](#))
- According to the Associated Press, a man suspected of stealing a plane in Canada and flying erratically across three states was trying to commit suicide, hoping he would be shot down by military fighter planes, a Missouri State trooper said Tuesday. (See item [10](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 6, Augusta Chronicle* – (South Carolina) **Coal smoldering at power plant.** Firefighters continued to stand watch Monday afternoon over coal that has been smoldering at a power plant in Aiken County since Friday, according to South Carolina Electric & Gas Co. As a precautionary measure, SCE&G called the Beech Island Fire Department Friday to help contain a smolder in the coal bunker at Urquhart Station. There are no open flames at Urquhart Station — only smoldering in the coal bunker, a contained storage unit made of steel and concrete. Occasional hot spots are being doused

and monitored around the clock to ensure that they are contained and controlled. Smoldering coal in the bunker is not unusual, and smoldering issues are typically resolved as coal is moved from the bunker to a boiler to help generate electricity. However, an operating unit at Urquhart has been offline for about 10 weeks for maintenance. The Beech Island Fire Department has called on firefighters from neighboring communities to assist it so that firefighters can work in shifts until the smolder has been eliminated.

Source: http://chronicle.augusta.com/stories/latest/lat_500943.shtml

2. *April 6, Reuters* – (Louisiana) **Power outage hits Conoco Belle Chasse refinery.** ConocoPhillips said a power outage forced shut units at its 247,000 barrel-per-day oil refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana on April 6. The company said electricity was restored to the plant quickly and that refinery crews “are now in the process of formulating the restart plans.” “The outage did not result in any injuries or major off-site environmental impact. Plant shutdowns do require some flaring, which is a common practice for these kinds of events,” the company said in a press release.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0642080420090406>
3. *April 6, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Arching power line caused Target solar panel fire.** On April 5, at approximately 4:15 p.m., a call was received by the Kern County Fire Department for a commercial structure fire at Target in Bakersfield. Approximately 22 Kern County and Bakersfield City firefighters responded to the incident. Crews entered the building and made a systematic search to confirm that employees and customers had evacuated. A ladder truck was set up and crews found that a row of solar panels on the roof had caught fire. Due to these panels still being energized with electricity, crews took precautions until they could be de-energized. After de-energizing the panels, crews found that some of the roof insulation had also caught fire. A small amount of water was then used while crews peeled back this affected area. Upon further investigation, crews found that one of four pieces of conduit containing electrical supply lines, for a group of panels, had arced from an unknown electrical problem. The cause is still under investigation.
Source: <http://www.bakersfield.com/news/local/x1442645194/Crime-shorts-Arcing-power-line-caused-Target-solar-panel-fire>
4. *April 4, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **Eco-terror threat: Connecticut DEP finds chemical ‘of concern’ at wood-burning plant site.** An investigation into possible contamination at the planned site of a wood-burning plant in Plainfield, Connecticut has picked up steam with the discovery of a chemical “of concern” there, a state agency said on April 4. The state’s environmental agency will not name the chemical, citing what is now an active criminal investigation. The substance was identified through tests, the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said in a written statement the afternoon of April 3. There is not enough contamination to pose an immediate threat to public health, the environment, groundwater, drinking water, or other natural resources, the statement says. The chemical was found earlier at the planned site of the Plainfield Renewable Energy plant (PRE); PRE received its final approval from the environmental agency in March to burn wood to generate electricity. The search for contaminants

began March 31, when the DEP commissioner got a letter claiming to be from the group of environmental activists called Earth First. The letter, which also had been mailed to Plainfield Renewable Energy and the Norwich Bulletin newspaper, claimed that Earth First dumped substances at the site of PRE's planned plant. Saying PRE is "guilty of plotting to commit crimes against the environment," the letter-writer stated that they dumped 1,200 pounds of substances in six locations on the 27-acre property — "the same pollution that PRE intends to dump on their neighbors." The letter lists the following chemicals: "Lead Mercury Asbestos Toluene Benzene Perchloroethylene and Creosote."

Source: <http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-web-plainfield-ecoterror-thr.artapr04,0,7069141.story>

5. *April 3, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Police: Mass. man threatened to darken West Virginia city.** A Massachusetts man is in jail in West Virginia, accused of threatening to turn out the lights in Parkersburg, West Virginia by disabling an electrical substation. The man is charged with threatening to commit a terrorist act. A Wood County deputy alleges in a criminal complaint that the 27-year-old told an Allegheny Power employee in February that he planned to knock out the city's lights. Authorities said they found schematic drawings, a wiring harness with switches, and items used to make an explosive device inside the man's vehicle. He allegedly told police that he was upset because of the President's "new laws." He was being held on April 3 on \$15,000 bond. His attorney was not immediately available for comment.

Source:

http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2009_04_03_Police:_Mass_man_threatened_to_darken_West_Virginia_city/srv=home&position=recent

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *April 6, Greenville Online* – (South Carolina) **Judge adds millions to injured workers' awards.** An Oconee County judge has ruled that an Upstate chemicals distributor must pay another \$3.6 million to two men who suffered severe burns and other injuries while working at a metal refinery plant, a decision that more than doubles what a jury originally awarded the pair. An attorney for the chemicals distributor — Univar USA, Inc., with a location in Spartanburg — said the company will respond before the end of the month to the judge's ruling that the company either pay the added awards or undergo a new trial to determine damages. In 2004, the two men were performing maintenance work at the former Engelhard plant in Seneca and were burned severely after sparks from the blow torches they were using ignited a stack of volatile chemicals, according to court documents. After a six-week trial last December, a jury found chemical distributor Univar liable for improperly packaging the chemical — sodium bromate — and awarded \$1.9 million and \$1.4 million to the two men respectively, records show.

Source:

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20090406/NEWS01/904060312/1069/YOURUPSTATE01>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

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Critical Manufacturing

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

7. *April 6, Bloomberg* – (New York) **Cuomo sues Merkin for shifting \$2.4 billion to Madoff.** The New York Attorney General sued a financier and his Gabriel Capital Corp. for secretly placing \$2.4 billion of client funds with an individual who used the money in the largest Ponzi scheme ever. The financier steered the assets to the individual who used the money in the Ponzi scheme in exchange for \$470 million in fees, the New York Attorney General alleged in a complaint filed Monday in New York State Supreme Court in Manhattan. Investors including prominent charities entrusted their funds to the financier who held himself out to be an “investing guru” when in reality he was “but a master marketer,” the New York Attorney General said in the complaint. Other entities of the financier included the Ariel Fund, Ascot Fund Ltd. and Gabriel, his management company.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=a9MY19UAxa3g&refer=news>

8. *April 6, Reuters* – (International) **SEC charges “Chinese Warren Buffett” of Ponzi scheme.** U.S. securities regulators charged a Toronto-based fund manager, who describes himself as the “Chinese Warren Buffett,” and his hedge fund with operating a multimillion dollar investment fraud, the Securities and Exchange Commission said on April 6. The SEC, which obtained an asset freeze to halt the alleged fraud, charged the fund manager and his Canadian-based hedge fund with operating a Ponzi scheme, where funds from new investors were used to pay purported profits to other investors. Since as early as 2004, the fund manager has raised as much as \$75 million from more than 200 investors for his hedge fund called the Oversea Chinese Fund Limited Partnership, the SEC said. The fund manager told investors in February 2009 that, in an

effort to conceal substantial trading losses and attract new investors to his hedge fund, he posted false profits on investors' account statements and used funds from new investors to pay out at least \$8 million in "fake" profits to others, the SEC said.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/usTopNews/idUKTRE5355TJ20090406>

9. *April 6, Bloomington Herald Times* – (Indiana) **Peoples, Fifth Third Bank calls are scams, bank officers warn.** A phone-calling scam is afoot in the Bloomington and Ellettsville area, with customers and non-customers of People's State Bank being asked for "verification" of credit card or account information. The executive vice president of the bank in Ellettsville said April 6 that automated calls and e-mails are going out to people asking for account information. The requests are false and people should hang up or refuse to enter requested information. He cautioned everyone to be aware of scammers, which have apparently targeted other community banks as victims. "I don't think we're the only ones," he said. A representative of Fifth Third Bank in Indianapolis said Monroe customers of her bank have also been the target of phishing scams. "This morning, Fifth Third has fielded about 30 calls already in our Bloomington financial centers regarding a phishing scam via an automated phone message," the representative said via e-mail. "The calls are coming from a person impersonating themselves as a representative of State Bank, Fifth Third Bank or it simply states 'Your banking information has been compromised' and doesn't state a particular financial institution," the representative said.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3179920>

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Transportation Sector

10. *April 7, Associated Press* – (International) **Stolen plane from Canada escorted by U.S. fighters.** A man suspected of stealing a plane in Canada and flying erratically across three states was trying to commit suicide, hoping he would be shot down by military fighter planes, a state trooper said April 7. The plane was tracked as a "flight safety issue" and was not believed to be a terrorist threat, said a spokesman for the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NAADC). The Missouri state trooper who arrested the pilot said, "He made a statement that he was trying to commit suicide and he didn't have the courage to do it himself. And his idea was to fly the aircraft into the United States, where he would be shot down." The plane was reported stolen the afternoon of April 6 from Confederation College Flight School at Thunder Bay International Airport in Ontario. It was intercepted by F-16 fighters from the Wisconsin National Guard after crossing into the state near the Michigan state line. The pilot was flying erratically and did not communicate with the fighter pilots. The pilot acknowledged seeing the F-16s but did not obey their nonverbal commands to follow them. The plane's path over Wisconsin prompted a brief, precautionary evacuation of the Wisconsin capitol in Madison, although there were few workers in the building at the time and the governor was not in town. The Cessna 172 continued south over Illinois and eastern Missouri before landing near Ellsinore. The plane landed about six hours after the reported theft, and had enough fuel for about eight hours of flight, NAADC officials said.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iC5xvmRlmutpYgkeMsfKk4QV4qjwD97DK8H01>

11. *April 7, Orlando Sentinel* – (Florida) **Jet strikes eagle, returns to Sanford Orlando airport.** A collision with a bald eagle forced an Allegiant Air flight to return on April 6 to Sanford Orlando International Airport — the sixth fatal encounter for an eagle there in three years, according to an airport official. None of the 138 passengers on Flight 745 was hurt in the incident, which took place about 5 p.m. as the plane took off for Allentown, Pennsylvania. The eagle hit the plane's "angle of attack indicator," which measures the angle at which a plane is ascending, said the airport chief executive officer. An airline spokeswoman described the aircraft's return to the airport as a "precautionary measure." She said it was too soon to tell whether the instrument was damaged. More critical equipment, such as the plane's engines, were not affected.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/orl-asec-eagle-jet-040709,0,2916937.story>

12. *April 6, WTOC 11 Savannah* – (Georgia) **More rains soak, destroy Jeff Davis roads.** In Jeff Davis County, flash floods since April 2 washed out part of Duncan Hand Road in Hazlehurst and the pipes underneath. The damage is almost identical miles away on A.H. Moody Road. The water came through both culverts with such force it knocked all the construction out of the way. The Jeff Davis Emergency Management director said the county had 26 closed roads as of April 6. Duncan-Hand and Moody are clearly the worst, he noted. But others were just too muddy to pass, especially by school busses. The school system cancelled school on April 6. The director said crews had worked almost non-stop since the showers stopped April 3. He noted those who live on the closed roads all had alternate routes in and out of their property so they were not isolated. WJXT 4 Jacksonville and Associated Press report that swollen rivers and creeks have cut off several roads including U.S. Highway 84 between Valdosta and Quitman in South Georgia. The Florida Department of Transportation said rising waters in the Suwannee River could force the closure of U.S. Highway 90 in Suwannee County by April 8. If waters continue to rise, Interstate 10 could be closed at the Suwannee River Bridge as early as April 9.

Source: <http://www.wtoctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=10139391>

See also: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/19106473/detail.html#->

13. *April 6, Beckley Register-Herald* – (West Virginia) **House OKs highway responders measure.** Firefighters are in charge of chemical leaks or other hazards, but if a highway crash is likely to prompt at least a two-hour traffic delay, the Department of Transportation must send a team in to get motorists rolling again. That, in essence, is how SB384 read as it cleared the House of Delegates in a 93-3 vote on April 6 and moved on to the governor's desk. A senator led earlier passage of the bill in the Senate, one that came in response to a massive traffic snarl that left motorists stuck on and off the West Virginia Turnpike more than 10 hours last summer. Making matters worse after a chemical-hauling 18-wheeler flipped en route to the Chelyan plaza in a southbound lane, another truck wedged against an overpass on a road off the turnpike. A

dispute arose in the aftermath over who held jurisdiction while dealing with the unknown chemical and the stalled commuters — fire crews or police? The Government Organization chairman made it clear that the incident commander is the ranking fire officer on the scene, from the chief on down, and that no movement occurs until a clearance is given. If several volunteer units arrive, the first one there takes charge. The proposed state law is actually in compliance with the National Incident Management Act in the handling of highway accidents that involve hazardous cargo. Except on federal property, the fire chief or any other line officer has the authority to shut down a road until a situation is cleared up. Moreover, the Government Organization chairman told the Roads and Transportation chairman that the measure had the backing of the DOT, volunteer units, and the West Virginia State Troopers Association. A delegate told her fellow lawmakers that anyone completing national incident training who arrives first at an accident can assume charge. “I don’t know if we have it resolved in code what happens when a lesser ranking person shows up first,” another delegate said. “With the responding fire department and then a higher ranking person comes in later, how’s the transition before it goes to DOT? I’m a little concerned about that.”

Source: http://www.register-herald.com/local/local_story_096221939.html

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *April 7, Digital Journal* – (California) **Setton pistachio expands voluntary recall of pistachios.** Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. announced that it is expanding its voluntarily recall of pistachios to include all roasted shelled pistachios and roasted in-shell pistachios from its 2008 crop. The company is also recalling raw shelled pistachios from the 2008 crop that are not subsequently roasted prior to retail sale. The voluntary recall was expanded as a precaution. To date, there have been no confirmed cases of salmonellosis associated with the company’s products.

Source: <http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/270597>

15. *April 7, Washington Post* – (Maryland; Virginia) **Plug is pulled on Asian oyster.** Asian oysters will not be allowed in the Chesapeake Bay, state and federal officials announced Monday. The decision, made by Maryland, Virginia, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, means that the species *Crassostrea ariakensis* should disappear from the Chesapeake the next month, officials said. But a fundamental problem remains unsolved. The Chesapeake needs an oyster species, both to filter its water and support watermen’s communities. Now, it does not have much of one. The native oyster species is down to 1 percent of its historic peak population, decimated by overfishing and disease. On Monday, officials pledged to spend millions trying to bring it back, but they said the oyster population is unlikely to ever return to what it was. The decision

followed a five-year study of the Asian oyster that cost federal and state authorities \$17 million.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/story/2009/04/06/ST2009040602019.html>

16. *April 7, Sacramento Business Journal* – (California) **Ag inspectors place traps to check for devastating moth.** A devastating moth has been found in Davis, prompting federal and state agriculture inspectors to place 300 traps to combat the harmful pest. The Light Brown Apple Moth, which was found Wednesday, can cause damage to 2,000 plants species and more than 250 crops, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The moth feeds on host plants and damages the appearance of citrus, grapes, fruit trees, and ornamental plants. Agriculture inspectors placed the traps in a 9-square-mile area. According to the Yolo County agriculture commissioner, “Future response could include a quarantine, a sterile insect technique or pheromone-infused twist tie technique. Aerial spraying is currently not an option.”

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2009/04/06/daily14.html>

17. *April 6, Wisconsin Ag Connection* – (Wisconsin) **Manitowoc Co. farm ordered to pay fine for violating pollution laws.** A Newton area dairy farm has agreed to pay penalties and assessments totaling \$85,000 for violating state water pollution control, manure management, air pollution, and solid waste laws. The Wisconsin Department of Justice says it settled a lawsuit against Siemers’ Holstein Farm, Inc. in Manitowoc County. According to the complaint, filed at the request of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Siemers installed a new leachate collection system and a new 15 million gallon manure storage facility in 2005-2006. The farm encountered high groundwater when it was digging its manure pit, and used improper dewatering techniques. The complaint went on to say that Siemers opened a field drain tile to drain the groundwater. In June 2006, Siemers’ existing manure pit overtopped, and approximately 10,000 gallons of manure, along with overflowing leachate, drained to the exposed tile line, which ultimately connected to a stream. While the DNR did not document any harm to the environment, such as fish kills, from Siemers’ violations, the violations are serious because they involve laws, regulations, and permits designed to prevent harmful discharges and emissions.

Source: <http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-state.php?Id=420&yr=2009>

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Water Sector

18. *April 7, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **2 more sewage spills hit river.** Torrential rain in late March caused two more major raw sewage spills into the Chattahoochee River in Roswell, bringing the total to more than 2 million gallons this year. Fulton County reported overflows of 286,187 gallons on March 27 and 840,576 gallons on March 29. State environmental regulators are still calculating fines for two earlier spills that totaled 981,000 gallons. Fulton is spending about \$40 million to stop the overflows by fixing a leaky pipe and upgrading pump stations and a sewage-treatment plant. The work should be finished by the end of 2012, county officials said.

The spills occur when rain swells the river, causing it to top its banks at Riverside Park along Azalea Drive. Water inundates the pipe and pump station carrying sewage from Alpharetta, Johns Creek, and Roswell. Metro Atlanta's historic drought had been the best temporary solution to the sewage overflows. Fulton reported only one other major spill from the Azalea Drive pipeline between 2005, when the state ordered the fix, and this year. Since early January, as winter rains began to pick up, the county has reported four major spills. A regulator with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division said overflows will continue until the county finishes its work. Since the spills occur when the river is carrying a lot of water, environmental damage is mitigated, she said.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/services/content/printedition/2009/04/07/sewage0407.html>

19. *April 5, Columbia County News-Times* – (Georgia) **Cason pleads guilty to falsifying reports.** The Harlem Public Works director pled guilty last week to three counts of making false statements relating to bogus water quality reports filed in 2004 and 2005. The director was indicted in September on 11 counts alleging violations of the federal Clean Water Act. An investigation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found that in January 2004 he used a portable pump to transfer wastewater from an oxidation pond at the plant into a nearby tributary of Euchee Creek, in violation of the Clean Water Act. He later falsified reports that included erroneous measurements of fecal coliform and oxygen-demanding materials. A special agent of the EPA testified in U.S. District Court on March 31 that “at least half a dozen” witnesses saw the wastewater being pumped into the creek; and that employee records indicated the director was not at work when the water quality reports were supposedly completed. The guilty plea involved three counts of making false statements related to specific water quality reports filed January 19-February 3, 2004; May 17-June 4, 2004; and March 22-April 4, 2005. Under the plea, seven other charges of filing false reports were dropped, as was the charge of discharging a pollutant into a tributary of Euchee Creek. The three charges to which the director pleaded guilty each carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled later, after a pre-sentencing report is prepared. The director remains on paid leave from the city of Harlem pending action from the city council, the city manager said.

Source: http://newstimes.augusta.com/stories/2009/04/05/new_517109.shtml

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

20. *April 7, Santa Barbara Daily Sound* – (California) **4 arrested after clinic is put on lockdown.** When a horde of gang members surrounded the Franklin Community Center clinic in Santa Barbara on April 3, blocking entrances and exits and allegedly making threatening gestures toward two rival gang members inside, clinic officials put the facility on the lockdown and called police. Shortly after 3 p.m., Santa Barbara Police officers were dispatched to the clinic, where they found the blinds closed, the doors locked, and about 20 suspected gang members and gang associates waiting outside. A spokesperson for the county of Santa Barbara's Public Health Department said it appeared the subjects gathering outside were angered at two males inside, who were waiting for a female friend to receive medical attention. At some point, everyone inside

the clinic was directed to the building's inner rooms, and work at the facility stopped. "The services were able to continue until the time we had to move people back out of the lobby," she said. Four men were arrested as the crowd dispersed.

Source: <http://www.thedailysound.com/040709FranklinLockdown>

21. *April 6, San Jose Mercury News* – (California) **Police evacuate San Mateo Planned Parenthood after employee finds suspicious package.** Police evacuated Planned Parenthood in San Mateo and blocked off the surrounding area on the morning of April 6 after an employee found a suspicious package outside the building. They evacuated the clinic and neighboring businesses and closed the street to vehicles and pedestrians. Police did not know the exact number of people evacuated. Officers later summoned the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad, whose members detonated the package. It did not contain any explosives.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/peninsula/ci_12087290
22. *April 5, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **S. Ind. drug treatment center damaged in fire.** Fire officials believe an electrical problem caused a fire that damaged a southern Indiana drug and alcohol treatment center. Officials say all 45 patients at the Greene County Rehab Center in Bloomfield were safely evacuated after the fire broke out on April 5. A Bloomfield Fire Department spokesman said that two firefighters were treated at a hospital for heat exhaustion. The state fire marshal's office is investigating to make an official determination of the cause.
Source: <http://www.fox28.com/Global/story.asp?S=10132570>

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Government Facilities Sector

23. *April 7, Inside Nova* – (Virginia) **Scanners keep Quantico MCB secure.** Since August 2008, military police have been cross-checking multiple law enforcement databases instantaneously using mobile, hand-held wireless scanners that can read any type of bar code or magnetic strip like on a passport, military identification card, or driver's license. "The Mobilisa is part of the random anti-terrorism measure," said the gunnery sergeant who serves as the physical security chief for Security Battalion. Military police use Mobilisa at all gates that give access to the Quantico Marine Corps base. Since the implementation of the scanners, military police have come across many offenders. The majority of offenses are people driving with a state suspended license, said the gunnery sergeant. It is not just citizens with suspended licenses the scanners are finding. "A foreign national with an expired passport tried to come through the gate and was taken away by Immigration and Customs Enforcement," said the gunnery sergeant. Mobilisa pulls information from all databases: the FBI's most wanted list, the National Crime Information Center, and national and state police databases. It even taps into all military branches law enforcement networks and sexual offender databases. It takes a mere three seconds for Mobilisa to scan a bar code or magnetic strip and provide military police with up-to-date information.
Source: http://www.insidenova.com/isn/news/patriot/article/scanners_keep_quantico_mcb_secur

24. *April 6, Reuters* – (International) **Nigeria dismisses U.S. warning of possible attack.** On April 6, Nigeria dismissed a U.S. embassy warning of a possible attack on diplomatic missions in Lagos, saying there was no proof of any “terrorist activities” in the country. The U.S. embassy in Nigeria said on April 5 that it had received reports of a possible strike against missions located close to the U.S. consulate general in Lagos, the commercial capital of Africa’s biggest oil producer. “The release by the U.S. embassy gives a false picture of the security situation in Nigeria,” said the Nigerian information minister. Nigeria, the world’s eighth biggest crude oil exporter, supplying the United States and China, has never been the victim of a major terrorist attack. But militants in the southern Niger Delta, the heartland of its oil industry, have regularly attacked installations belonging to the United States and other oil giants.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSL6252974>

25. *April 6, Washington Post* – (National) **Tech companies try to lure the government into cloud computing.** Consumers save their e-mail and documents on Google’s data centers, put their photos on Flickr, and store their social lives on Facebook. Now a number of companies — including Amazon.com Inc. and Microsoft Corp. — say they want government agencies to similarly house data on their servers as a way to cut costs and boost efficiency. The push toward “cloud computing,” so named because data and software is housed in remote data centers rather than on-site servers, is the latest consumer technology to migrate to the ranks of government. Instead of storing information on computers, an agency would store e-mail and other data on servers maintained by companies such as Amazon or IBM. Employees would access information through an Internet browser, and in many cases from outside the office, just as they would access a Hotmail account. Already the Defense Department’s technology arm has set up a cloud to let the military rent storage space or use remote software programs. But skeptics say information is not protected on public servers. Some worry that data could be impossible to remove after it has been socked away in commercial data centers. Unlike destroying hard drives to erase sensitive data, traces could remain on outside servers for years. Storing information on servers run by Amazon or Google could prove safer than storing it on government-owned databases, said an analyst of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, which advises federal officials on technology. Large providers typically have more resources to ward off security threats because their business depends on it, the analyst said. Agencies, on the other hand, often can not afford to hire as many employees to keep watch over the servers.
Source: <http://www.statesman.com/business/content/business/stories/technology/04/06/0406cloud.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

26. *April 7, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Arkansas) **ER evacuated due to bomb threat.** One man

is in police custody after police say he walked into the emergency room at NEA Baptist Hospital in Jonesboro saying he had a bomb and wanted to kill himself. The ER was evacuated after a backpack was found outside with wires hanging out. The man was detained, and the bomb squad was called in from Little Rock. Just after 8:00 p.m. on the night of April 6, the bomb squad dismantled whatever was in the bag. It does not appear as though an explosive device was in the bag. No one was injured in the incident. Only the emergency room at the hospital was evacuated. All other patients remained inside their rooms during the incident. As of April 6, no charges have been filed against the suspect and police are not releasing his name.

Source: <http://www.kait8.com/Global/story.asp?S=10138750>

27. *April 7, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Critical error by 911 worker failed to note Poplawski owned guns.** A 911 call-taker in Pittsburgh, who has been on the job for less than a year, including training, was placed on paid administrative leave after she failed to relay important information to three city police officers. The officers responded to a call from a Stanton Heights woman who wanted her son removed from her home. She told the call-taker that her son had firearms, but this information was not relayed to the officers, all of whom were fatally shot. The police chief acknowledged the mistake, but said it was an anomaly considering the 911 center successfully handles almost 1.5 million calls a year. County 911 officials uncovered the problem over the weekend during a standard review of how the critical incident was handled.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09097/961068-53.stm>

28. *April 6, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **DC Fire/EMS wants to be your friend on Facebook.** The District of Columbia's fire department has embraced Web 2.0 and is on the hunt for a few more "friends" and followers. A DC Fire/EMS spokesman said on April 6 that the department is on Facebook and on Twitter. On Twitter — a service that allows people to follow updates, or "tweets" from other people — Fire/EMS plans to post breaking news and other department updates. DC Fire/EMS's last "tweet" was on Saturday, April 4 at 5:05 p.m, saying: "working fire - 3421 M St., NW - no injuries - commercial bldg." This approach is one way for DC Fire/EMS to compete with private paging services that listen to police and fire scanners and send out short alerts to subscribers, including several media organizations. On Facebook, the online presence of local law enforcement is growing. Among them are groups like "Fraternal Order of Police DC Lodge #1- Auxiliary," "Friends of Prince George's County Sheriff Deputies," and "Virginia State Police."

Source:

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/dc/2009/04/dont_forget_to_friend_dc_fire.html?wprss=dc

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Information Technology

Nothing to report

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

29. *April 7, Cellular News* – (International) **World's first femtocell standard published by 3GPP.** Three trade bodies, the Femto Forum, 3GPP, and the Broadband Forum have jointly announced that the world's first femtocell standard has been officially published by 3GPP, paving the way for interoperability between different vendors' access points and femto gateways. The new standard, which forms part of 3GPP's Release 8, and interdependent with Broadband Forum extensions to its Technical Report-069 (TR-069), has been completed in just 12 months following cooperation between the three groups. The new femtocell standard covers four main areas: network architecture; radio and interference aspects (both completed last December); femtocell management/provisioning and security (finalized this month). In terms of network architecture, the crucial interface between potentially millions of femtocells and gateways in the network core has been called Iuh. This re-uses existing 3GPP UMTS protocols and extends them to support the needs of high-volume femtocell deployments. The new standard has adopted the Broadband Forum's TR-069 management protocol, which has been extended to incorporate a new data model for femtocells developed collaboratively by Femto Forum and Broadband Forum members and published by the Broadband Forum as Technical Report 196 (TR-196). TR-069 is already widely used in fixed broadband networks and in set-top boxes and will allow mobile operators to simplify deployment and enable automated remote provisioning, diagnostics-checking, and software updates. The standard also uses a combination of security measures including IKEv2 (Internet Key Exchange v2) and IPsec (IP Security) protocols to authenticate the operator and subscriber and then guarantee the privacy of the data exchanged.

Source: <http://www.cellular-news.com/story/36895.php?source=rss>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

30. *April 6, Grand Rapids Press* – (National) **Federal act to protect Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore along Lake Superior, other public lands creates buzz.** The U.S.

President signed the Omnibus Public Lands Act on March 30, which designates 2 million acres of wilderness across the country and protects rivers, national parks, and trails. In Michigan, that includes the 11,740-acre Beaver Basin Wilderness at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore along Lake Superior. The legislation protects the 250,000-acre backcountry of Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado and Zion National Park in Utah, among others, which are experiencing development pressures. The bill also recognizes the authority of the federal Bureau of Land Management to manage the 26-million acre National Landscape Conservation System. That includes 924 of the nation's most spectacular lands, including the Grand Staircase in Utah.

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/living/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2009/04/federal_act_to_protect_picture.html

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Dams Sector

31. *April 7, Daily Item of Lynn* – (Massachusetts) **Saugus to begin dam projects.** The Public Works superintendent said work to repair the Golden Hills dams gets under way this week, and it starts with surveys being done by engineering firm Weston & Sampson. “They’ll be at Spring Pond Dam doing test borings,” he said. Last November, the Department of Conservation and Recreation directed the town to not only repair the aged Spring Pond dam but to do it on its own dime. Listed in poor condition, at the time it was called a potential hazard. Nearly two years ago, Weston & Sampson issued a report on all three dams in the Golden Hills area that said none of them were aging well. The inspection that was done per order of the DCR said Griswold Pond Dam and Lower Pond Dam were both in fair condition with hazardous potential, but Spring Pond Dam was generally in poor condition. The dam, which is believed to be close to 100 years old, suffers from an eroded footpath, small depressions and cracking in the road that extends across the crest of the dam, a deteriorating wall with structural cracks, and a broken splash pad. The wooden guardrails along the crest are also rotting, and there is dense vegetation along both the upstream and downstream slope.

Source: <http://www.thedailyitemoflynn.com/articles/2009/04/06/news/news07.txt>

32. *April 6, Associated Press* – (National) **Eleven states to receive funding to rebuild dams.** Eleven states will share nearly \$45 million in aid from the economic stimulus program to rehabilitate aging dams, the Agriculture Department said on April 6. Oklahoma will receive \$14 million for several projects across the state, while Georgia will get more than \$6 million. Texas will receive nearly \$5 million, while projects in Massachusetts, Virginia, and West Virginia were awarded more than \$4 million. “Many dams and other important flood control structures across the country are in a race against time,” said the Agriculture Secretary. The federal aid is designed to revitalize rural communities and bolster deteriorating dams which could fail and threaten lives and property. Projects in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and New York will also receive funding under the program, which requires state and local sponsors to provide 35 percent of the funding for their projects.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/6361169.html>

33. *April 6, Ventura County Star* – (California) **3 levees in Ventura County risk being decertified.** Nine levees in Ventura County are not up to federal standards, and three of those are not likely to be fixed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) December 1 deadline. Following Hurricane Katrina, FEMA re-emphasized an existing requirement that all levees and other flood-control systems in the nation meet new federal guidelines. Levees not brought up to those standards by December 1 could be “decertified,” which would mean the areas behind them would become federal flood plains and property owners would have to buy flood insurance. In Ventura County, the three levees that will not make the deadline are one near the mouth of the Ventura River in Ventura, one farther up the Ventura River near Oak View, and one along Calleguas Creek in Camarillo. Decertification would affect only property owners closest to the three levees, which combined protect 475 properties with 1,585 residents, according to a study completed last month by a firm the county hired to assess the levees.
Source: <http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2009/apr/06/3-levees-in-ventura-county-fail-to-meet-federal/>

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